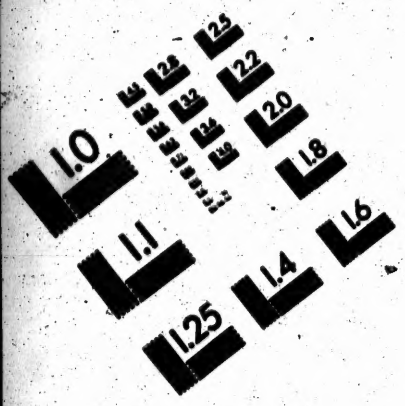

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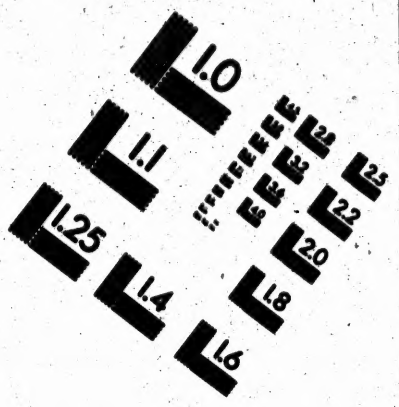

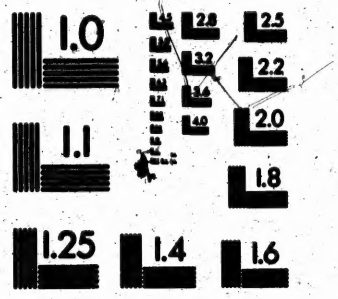

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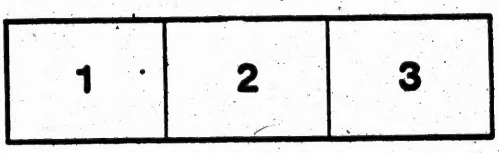

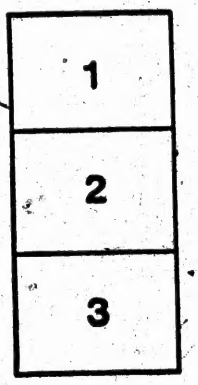

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CONSTITUTION

OF

THE CHILDREN'S FUND

AND

REVISION OF DISCIPLINE.

Toronto:
PRINTED AT THE WESLEYAN STEAM-PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1858.

THE CHILDREN'S FUND.

A Meeting of the Committee appointed by the Conference was held in the John St. Church Vestry, on the 2nd December, 1857, pursuant to notice in the *Christian Guardian*.

Present, Revs. S. Rose, J. Douse, G. Douglas, J. Hughes, S. D. Rice, and Messrs. R. Woodsworth and J. McDonald.

After a lengthened discussion on the Constitution of the Children's Fund, it was unanimously resolved that the following be adopted:—

In order to equalize the burden of supporting the Children of our Ministers, authorized alike by the connexional form of our Churches, and the itinerancy of our Ministers, and thus to relieve from difficulties often felt in stationing Ministers with large families to otherwise suitable Circuits, it was resolved at the Conference held in London in 1855, that the rules adopted by the British Conference on this subject for their own guidance, should be received by this Conference, so far at least as they may be found to apply to our condition.

1. That every District shall be considered to be responsible for providing within itself, and by its own local resources, the usual quarterly allowances for such a number of the Ministers' Children, as shall be found, on annual examination and calculation, to be fairly chargeable on the Circuits belonging to that District, according to the principles of proportion to numbers in Society.

2. That when the number of Children's allowances, to be provided in each District collectively, has been ascertained,

those allowances shall afterwards be annually divided among the several Circuits of that District; and every Circuit shall be responsible for the sum so allotted to it, as its equitable share of this part of the general expenditure of our connexion, and shall be expected to furnish that sum by quarterly instalments, either out of its own regular income, or, if necessary, by means of extraordinary local exertions.

3. That although in ascertaining the number of Children's allowances to be charged on every *District*, the number of members is to be the *sole* principle of calculation, it is recommended that in the partition of these allowances among the several *Circuits* which compose that District, while the number of Members in each Circuit is still to be considered as the *leading* principle on which the division shall be made, the comparative circumstances of the Circuits, *in other respects*, shall also be taken into the account, and allowed to modify, in particular cases, the application of the general principle of *members;* so that the more burdened Circuits may, as much as possible, be relieved by others in the same District, and the whole quota for each District be always raised within itself.

4. That the sums thus charged in the District, and divided among the Circuits, shall be considered as constituting a separate Fund, to be called *the Children's Fund;* and that in consequence of this arrangement, no allowances for Children's quarterage shall in future be paid out of the Contingent Fund, either at the District Meetings or at the Conference.

5. That two *General Treasurers* and a General Secretary for the Children's Fund shall be annually appointed by the Conference; and that the Financial Secretary of the District Meeting shall act as *Local Treasurer* for the same Fund in that District during the ensuing year.

6. That the Circuit Stewards of every Circuit shall be expected to pay the regular allowances for Children—by quarterly instalments as usual—to those Ministers stationed for the time being in their Circuit, who are entitled to receive such allowances, according to our existing rules. If the quota of contribution to the Children's Fund, be charged on that Circuit according to the second and third articles of this plan, shall be *less* than the sum which they thus actually advance for the children of their own Ministers, they shall be entitled to receive the *deficiency* back again, through the District Treasurer, out of the Childrens' Fund. But if the quoted charges on that Circuit shall be more than is needed for the payment of the children of their own ministers, they shall, immediately after every Quarterly Meeting, remit the balance to the District Treasurer. In all these cases, whatever sums the Circuit Stewards shall advance to their own ministers for their Children, according to rule, such sums shall be considered, when duly certified to the District Treasurers as paid on behalf of the Children's Fund, and entered in the District account accordingly.

7. That the District Treasurers shall be earnestly requested to settle their accounts for the year with the Stewards of every Circuit in their District at the May Quarterly Meetings of each year; and to transmit to the general Secretary of this Fund, the complete accounts of the District for that year, in reference to the said Fund immediately afterwards, in order that time may be afforded for arranging the whole, and preparing them for the Committee at the Conference. The account of every District Treasurer, should include—1. The names and total number of children of ministers actually stationed in that District, for whom allowances are claimed. 2. The number of allowances for children charged on each particular

Circuit of his District, in order to make up the quota which was allotted to that District by the Committee at the preceding Conference. 3. A statement, whether in his District the sums charged on the several Circuits for this Fund, have been more than sufficient, or less than sufficient, to pay the whole of the allowances due for children to ministers in that District, and in the former case, what is the amount of the surplus which he, as District Treasurer, has to pay to the General Treasurers; or, in the latter case, what is the amount of the deficiency which the General Treasurers, are expected to refund to the District Treasurer.

8. That the Committee of the Contingent Fund and the General Treasurers and Secretary of the Children's Fund, shall, at their Annual Meetings before or at the Conference, examine the accounts of this Fund for the year preceding, and shall make the necessary calculations and allotments for the year ensuing.

9. That the said Committee, in making their calculations for that purpose, shall take the numbers of members in the Circuits composing each District, exactly as annually reported at the Conference, by the Chairman of the District, which shall in all cases be adopted for the year then next ensuing, as the general basis of all calculations affecting this Fund—because any partial attention, even in case of real error, would usually be of small consequence to the individual Circuit or District, and could not be effected, after the general calculations have been once made and published, without materially deranging the whole plan.

10. That in dividing the Children's allowances among the several Districts, according to their number of members, on the rates which may be annually found just and necessary, when a fractional number occurs, if such fractional number be one-half or upwards of the whole number which ought to

provide for one allowance, it shall, in every such case, be reckoned as if it had amounted to that whole number; and one additional child shall, for that year, be charged in that District. And if this provision shall not prove sufficient to make up the loss which would arise from the omissions of fractional numbers in the division, one allowance more shall be added to those Districts, whose fractional numbers come nearest to the one-half of the number fixed in the general ratio, until the whole number of allowances which are wanted shall have been distributed among the different Districts.

11. That the division among the Districts having been made at the Conference on the plan above mentioned, the Ministers and Stewards of each district, assembled in the Financial District Meeting, shall then proceed to determine definitely what part of the Children's allowances, charged on their District collectively, shall be provided by each particular Circuit or Mission, and to adopt such measures as they may think necessary for securing the due collection of the quotas allotted to the several Circuits, so that the whole may be duly received by the District Treasurer, and the surplus, if any, shall remain, after paying the children then in that District, be by him paid to the General Treasurers not later than the Wednesday before the ensuing Conference.

12. That the Stewards of every Circuit shall be requested regularly to pay either to the District Treasurers or to their Ministers on his account, at the close of every Quarterly Meeting, whatever sum may be then due from their Circuit for children's allowances; in order that the District Treasurer may, as far as possible, be enabled to make the usual Quarterly payments in his own District, at the proper time, without being subjected to the necessity of large pecuniary advances on account of the Fund.

13. That to prevent confusion in the accounts of the District Treasurers, and for other weighty reasons, it is found necessary to direct that no Ministers child born in the course of the year, (between one Conference and another), and not included in the accounts, and before the preceding Conference, of the probable number to be provided for in that year, nor in the arrangements of the Financial District Meeting in September, shall have any allowance for that year from the Childrens' Fund; but that for every such child the Minister may receive the regular Quarterly allowance, during the remainder of that year, from the Stewards of the Circuit to which he belongs. And in the case of the death of any of those children who are provided for by this Fund, the parents shall be permitted to receive for them the usual allowance to the end of the year in which they died.

14. That in the regular minutes of every District Meeting, the chairman is required to direct the Annual insertion of a complete and particular list of the names of all the children of ministers then stationed in that District, for whom the usual quarterage is claimed, during that year, whether paid by the Treasurer of the General Children's Fund, or in the Circuit, and to the name of each child on the list shall be appended its age, at the May Quarter-day of that year; so that it may be annually ascertained by the compilation of one general list, not only how many children have claims on the Circuit or Fund, but also for how many years the allowance has been already paid for each child, and how much longer such child will be entitled by rule to receive the allowance. In stating the ages, the additional quarters, if any, should be added to the number of years specified in the account.

15. The Chairman of every District shall be required to see

that all the regulations respecting the management of this Fund, which are detailed in the preceding minutes, be fully carried into effect in the District under his charge; and that he shall be held individually responsible for the insertion in his District-minutes of the proper lists, described in the 15th and 16th articles of the preceding minutes, and for the timely transmission of them to the Committee of the Children's Fund during Conference.

Resolution II,—That the Conference be requested to add to the said Constitution of the Children's Fund, a rule for the adjustment of the different claims of the Mission and regular work, so that each department shall be made to bear its own expenses.

Resolution III,—That the *regular* claimants on this Fund are such Children of Ministers as are born after their fathers have been received into full connexion with the Conference and ordained.

That the Children of Ministers from the English Conference, from affiliated Conferences, and from the Methodist E. C., U. S., who have been regularly transferred to this Conference, which have been born after their fathers have travelled four years in the regular work, shall be regular claimants upon payment of such sums to the Funds of the Church as may give them an equitable title thereto.

P. S. Amount to be fixed at next meeting.

Resolution IV,—All Children born while Parents, previous to 1855, travelled in the regular work, shall claim the same as *regular* claimants.

Resolution V,—That any temporary exchange between the

members of this Conference, and the other affiliated Conferences, be the subject of especial rule, as such exchanges may be made.

Adjourned to meet the 1st Wednesday in February, 1858, in the Mission Room, Toronto, at 7 P. M.

S. Rose, Chairman.

S. D. [illegible], Secretary.

CONTINGENT FUND.

A Meeting of the Committee appointed to prepare a revised Constitution for the Contingent Fund, was held in the City of Hamilton, on Tuesday, December 1st, 1857.

The following were present—viz, Revs. J. Douse, J. Musgrove, J. Spencer and I. B. Howard, and Messrs. Thos. Storm and John McDonald.

Rev. J. Douse was appointed Chairman, and I. B. Howard Secretary.

The following draft of a Constitution was considered by the Committee, when it was Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to get a sufficient number of copies printed, and sent to each member of the Committee for their consideration, and for their suggestions, and that an adjourned meeting of the Committee be held in the City of Toronto, on the First Tuesday in February at 7 o'clock, P. M.

COPY OF DRAFT OF CONSTITUTION, &c.

Art. 1. This Fund, denominated "The Contingent Fund of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada," is established for the purpose of aiding those Circuits which have not been able to pay their Preachers' Salaries; for relieving cases of special affliction, and for defraying extraordinary expenses incurred in the service of the Church.

Art. 2. In addition to the amount granted by the English Conference, there shall be public collections made in all our congregations, during the months of September and March in each year. Such appropriations also of the avails of the Printing and Book Establishment shall be annually made to this Fund as the Book Committee shall from time to time judge expedient.

Art. 3. The Committee of the Contingent Fund, shall consist of Thirty Members—namely, Fifteen Ministers (one of whom shall be the Treasurer) chosen by the ministers and preachers of fifteen District Meetings, designated by the Conference, and an equal number of Laymen chosen by the Recording Stewards and Representatives at the May District Meetings of several Districts most contiguous to the place of holding the ensuing Conference, such Districts to be named by the Conference.

Art. 4. This Committee shall meet annually at the place of holding the Conference, on the Second Wednesday of the Conference, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

Art. 5. This Committee shall appoint annually from among themselves, a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and two Auditors.

1. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to preside at the meetings Committee, and to have a vote as a member of the Committee, and also a casting vote in case of an equality of votes upon any question. In the absence of the Chairman, any member of the Committee may be appointed to preside *pro. tem.*

2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a Book in which shall be inserted the Constitution and By-Laws, and in which he shall keep a record of the proceedings of all the meetings of the Committee; and to sign all orders upon the Treasurer which have been authorized by the Committee.

3. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies, and make such disbursements as have been authorized by the Committee and signed by the Secretary, and to render to the Committee an annual detailed account of the same.

4. It shall be the duty of the Auditors to examine the accounts of the Treasurer, annually, and present their Report to to the Committee.

Art. 6. All applications for grants from this Fund shall be presented to the Committee by the Chairman of the District from which the claim is made, or by such other person as he may appoint to represent his District.

Art. 7. No application for special or additional grants to any Circuit shall be entertained by this Committee, unless such Circuit has raised during each quarter, the average sum of two shillings and six pence per member.

Art. 8. No application for additional aid to Circuits, or special claims, shall be entertained by this Committee unless they have passed the Quarterly Meeting, and have been signed by the Recording Stewards, and recommended by the District Meeting.

Art. 9. All applications for expenses incurred in the general work, or for other claims not otherwise specified shall be submitted to the Committee in detail for their investigation and approval.

Art. 10. A financial District Meeting consisting of the Superintendents of Circuits and Missions, and one Steward from each Circuit and Mission shall be held in each District in the month of September, in which the sum granted to that District by the Committee, shall be apportioned to the different Circuits as fairly and impartially as possible.

Art. 11. Any Circuit which in the past year has received assistance from the Contingent Fund may or may not obtain aid the next year, as the Financial District Meeting may see fit; even though the said Circuit may or may not have been considered in the appropriation made to the District by this Committee.

Art. 12. One half of the amounts granted by the Committee to each District shall be forwarded by the Treasurer to the Financial Secretary of such District in the month of Dec[illegible] ber, and the balance paid over to him during the first w[illegible] Conference.

Art. 13. The collections taken up for this Fund in September and March shall be paid over by Superintendents to the Financial Secretaries of their several Districts not later than the 15th of the following months respectively.

Art. 14. The Financial Secretaries shall pay over to the Recording Stewards of the several Circuits, or their order, the sums appropriated to their respective Circuits by the Financial District Meetings.

REVISION OF DISCIPLINE.

At the last Session of the Wesleyan Conference, held in Toronto, June, 1857. The Committee appointed for the revision of the Discipline, were directed to issue a sheet containing the emendations and additions, which have been either sanctioned by the Conference, or proposed by the Revision Committee. The following is a synopsis of the revision, together with the arrangement of subjects, recommended for the new Discipline.

Explanation—In all cases the word *Minister* is used instead of *Preacher*, when it refers to one who is ordained. Travelling Preacher refers to those who have been admitted on trial for the ministry, but not yet ordained. Wherever these terms occur, the verbal alterations are made to correspond with the above significations.

CHAP. I.—SEC. I. Articles of Religion.

SEC. II. Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper.

SEC. III. The Ministration of Baptism to Infants.

SEC. IV. Baptism of such as are of riper years.

SEC. V. Form of Solemnization of Matrimony.

SEC. VI. Order of the Burial of the Dead.

SEC. VII. Form and Manner of Ordaining Ministers.

SEC. IX. The Origin, Design, and General Rules of Our United Societies.

The latter part of rule 3rd, page 12, under the head of *The Leader*,—towards the support of the work of God,—insert instead of, "Preachers, Church and Poor."

On the same page—Drunkenness, buying or selling Spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of extreme necessity.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

Page 19. Question 3. Answer.

All the Ministers and Travelling Preachers in the District, and as many Lay Representatives from each Circuit, as there are Travelling Ministers and Preachers stationed on it. One of the Lay Representatives from each Circuit, shall be the General Recording Steward, who with the other Representatives shall be members of their respective District Meetings when the financial and temporal affairs are under consideration. The Chairman in appointing the time and place of their respective District Meetings, shall announce the time the Lay Representatives are required to attend.

Page 23. 8. *Early* instead of *soon*.

FINANCIAL DISTRICT MEETINGS.

Page 23. 11. To apportion to the several Circuits, according to the claims which they then present, equitably and fairly considered the amount placed at its disposal by the Contingent Fund Committee to provide for the allowances of the Minister's children, according to the rules of the Children's Fund, to appoint a District Treasurer of the Children's Fund; and to make arrangements for holding Missionary Meetings, allowing Superintendents to provide for their own Circuits when it is deemed advisable.

Page 24. Question 1. Answer.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

Of all the Ministers in the Circuit or Mission, Travelling and Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Class Leaders, and one Trustee appointed by each Trustee Board.

3. Add—The Committee on Estimate, to report to the Meeting by which appointed.

5. To appoint all the Stewards annually at the Second Quarterly Meeting, for the ensuing year, the Superintendent nominating, and the Quarterly Meeting electing them, one of whom or a member, the Quarterly Meeting shall be appointed by the First Quarterly Meeting, to attend the Financial District Meeting in September; and at the Fourth Quarterly Meeting, as many Lay Representatives as there are Travelling Ministers and Preachers on the Circuit or Mission, shall be appointed to attend the Annual District Meeting.

Page 25. After Local Preachers' Meeting, President of Conference, shall be inserted—To take cognizance of the Local Preachers and Exhorters on the Circuit or Mission, and to enquire into the gifts, labours, punctuality and usefulness of each by name.

Page 25. Answer to Question 1. The English Conference shall have authority to send from year to year one of its own, or to appoint a member of our Conference to preside over this Conference, &c.

Answer 2nd to Question 2nd., page 25.—To see that the appointments of the Ministers and Preachers for the Districts, Circuits, Stations and Missions, are made according to the rules of Conference respecting the Advisory and Stationary Committees; Provided always that no Minister or Preacher shall be allowed to remain mor. than three years successively on the same Circuit or Station, in any case, except the Editor and General Book Steward, the Supernumerary and Superannuated Ministers, Missionaries, &c.

CO-DELEGATE.

Page 27. And in case of the death of the co-Delegate, or his disqualification to perform the duties of President, the

Secretary of Conference shall call a meeting of the Conference Special Committee in such place as may be deemed most convenient, to appoint a member of the Conference, President *pro tem*, who shall perform the duties of the office until a successor is appointed.

CHAIRMEN OF DISTRICTS.

Page 27. Question 2nd. Answer. By the President. Nevertheless, an Advisory Committee consisting of one member from each District elected by ballot at each Annual District Meeting, shall be associated with the President in the appointment of the Chairman; and he shall not appoint any Minister Chairman of a District without the consent of a majority of said Committee; and in case of a difference between the President and the Committee, with respect to any District.

At the end of Sec. 11, page 29, add the following rule:—In case of the death, removal of the Chairman during the year, or his being otherwise disqualified to perform the duties of his office, the Financial Secretary shall call a Special District Meeting, and the Meeting so called shall elect by ballot a Chairman for the remainder of the year.

SUPERINTENDENTS.

Page 30. Add "Superintendent" after Chairman—And to preside in all the official meetings of his Circuit or Mission, and to make all nominations for the appointment of officers in the Church.

Page 30—10. And deliver in such account to the District Meeting, which shall be reported to the Conference, &c., which account shall include the members who have been received by ticket, and those who are only members on trial &c.

Page 31—15. Quarterly and other collections in the classes.

Page 16. To see that all the public collections in aid of the Circuit and Connexional Funds of the Church, are regularly made in all the Congregations as directed by the Conference.

CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

Page 38. Question 4. Ans.—After "inquiry," "Do you constantly attend the Sacrament?"—*Insert*, Have you been baptised, and what are your views on Infant Baptism?—and at the end of the paragraph, inquire—What is your native country? What occupation or trade have you followed?

Page 41. Question 1. Ans. 11.—After "four years,' insert—Nevertheless any Preacher who may be employed in the work by the Chairman, previous to the 1st. of January, shall be allowed one year of his probation.

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES.

Answer 12. Page 42.—To form a new Section with Sec. 5. Ques. 1 & 2. Page 51,—as follows, "Of the reception of Preachers from the Wesleyan Connexion and from other Denominations."

Ques. 1.—"In what manner shall we receive those Ministers who may come to us from the Wesleyan Connexion in Europe, and the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States?"

Ans.—If they come to us properly accredited from either the British, Irish, or any Annual Conference in the United States, they may be received according to their credentials, provided they give satisfaction to the Conference of their willingness to conform to our Church government and usages.

Ques. 2.—How shall we receive those Ministers who may offer to unite with us from other Christian Churches, or any seceding body of Methodists?

Ans. 1. Those Ministers of other Evangelical Churches or other bodies of Methodists who may desire to unite with our Church, may be received according to our usages, on condition of their taking upon them our ordination vows without re-imposition of hands, giving satisfaction to a committee composed of the Chairman of the District and two other Ministers of the District Meeting, and to the Conference of their being in Orders, and of their agreement with us in doctrine, discipline, government and usages, provided also that the Conference is satisfied with their gifts, grace and usefulness.

Ques. 3.—How shall we receive Preachers of other Evangelical Denominations, or any seceding body of Methodists who are not in order?

Page 42. Ans.—They may be received as licentiates, provided they give satisfaction that they are suitable persons to exercise the office, and of their agreement with the doctrines, discipline, government and usages of our Church. The Chairman and any two Ministers (members of the Conference,) of the District, within the bounds of which such Preacher may be travelling or resident, are authorized to act as a Committee on behalf of the Conference to admit him into our Church, and he may be employed until the ensuing Conference; and if he be recommended by a District Meeting, he may be received as a Preacher on trial.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS FROM OTHER CIRCUITS.

Page 65. Sec. 5. Ques. 3. Ans. 4.—Private members

in connection with other Evangelical Churches, or any seceding body of Methodists, who make application for admission into our Church, may be received by the Preachers on the Circuit as members without the usual term of probation.

ON TRIALS.

Page 56. Ans. 3.—After "accused by,"—*insert*, The President, co-Delegate, Superintendent of Missions, or Chairman, &c.

Page 59. Ques. 3 Ans.—When charges are preferred against any Local Preacher, the accused and his accuser shall respectively choose two Local Preachers or official members of the Circuit or Mission, (but should either or both of them refuse, or neglect to select themselves of such committee, then, in such case, the Superintendent shall have power to appoint them), and the Preacher in charge, shall, with the members of the Committee so chosen, try the accused Preacher; and they shall have authority, if he be found guilty, to admonish, reprove, or suspend him, till the ensuing Quarterly Meeting, when the whole matter shall be determined.

Sec. 1 or 2.—*On trial of Local Preachers.* Between 5 & 6, insert—Ques. 2. What shall be done in cases of improper teachers' words and actions?

Ans. The person so offending shall be reprehended by the Minister or the Superintendent Preacher having charge. Should a second transgression take place, one, two, or three faithful friends are to be taken as witnesses. If he be not cured, he shall be then tried at the next Local Preachers' Meeting or Quarterly Board of the Circuit, and if found guilty and impenitent, he shall be expelled from the Church.

Ques. 3.—What shall be done when a Local Preacher fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay?

Ans.—Let the Superintendent Minister appoint three judicious members of the Church, inspect the accounts, contracts and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has behaved dishonestly, or contracted debts without the probability of paying, he shall be suspended until the ensuing Quarterly Meeting.

LOCAL PREACHERS' MEETING.

Page 56.—Introduce a question—Who shall compose the Local Preachers' Meeting?

Ans.—All the Ministers, Travelling and Local Preachers, and Exhorters of the Circuit or Mission. It shall be required of all Local Preachers, before fully received, to give satisfaction to the Local Preachers' or Quarterly Meeting, as to their acquaintance with the subject of Scriptural and Wesleyan Theology. The following questions shall be proposed:—Have you faith in Christ? Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be perfected in love in this life? Are you groaning after it? Do you sincerely and fully believe the doctrines of Methodism, as contained in our articles of Faith and as taught by Mr. Wesley in his notes on the New Testament, and volumes of Sermons? *Especially the following leading ones:*—A Trinity of Persons in the unity of the Godheart; the total depravity of all men by nature in consequence of Adam's fall; the atonement made by Christ for the sins of all the human race; justification by faith; the direct witness of the Spirit; the pos-

sibility of falling from a state of justification and holiness, and perishing everlastingly; the absolute necessity of holiness both in heart and life; and the proper eternity of future rewards and punishments? Will you endeavour fully and faithfully to preach them?—(Disap. pages 39 & 40.)

BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

Page 61. Chap. 4. Sec. 1.—Incorporate Baptism and the Lord's Supper in one Section.

Ans. 1.—Either omit entirely, or add the following proviso:—Nevertheless no minister shall be required to administer the ordinance by immersion, who entertains conscientious objections to that mode of Baptism.

Quest. 1. Are all young children entitled to baptism?

Answ. We hold that all children, by virtue of the unconditional benefits of the atonement, are members of the kingdom of God, and therefore, graciously entitled to baptism; but as infant baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline, it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for baptism, that they use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the word of God, and they should be solemnly admonished of this obligation, and earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein.

Ques. 2. What is the relation of baptized children to the Church?

Answ. We regard all children who have been baptised, as placed in visible covenant relation to God, and under the special care and supervision of the Church.

Answ 3. Whenever they shall have attained an age sufficient to understand the obligations of religion, and shall give

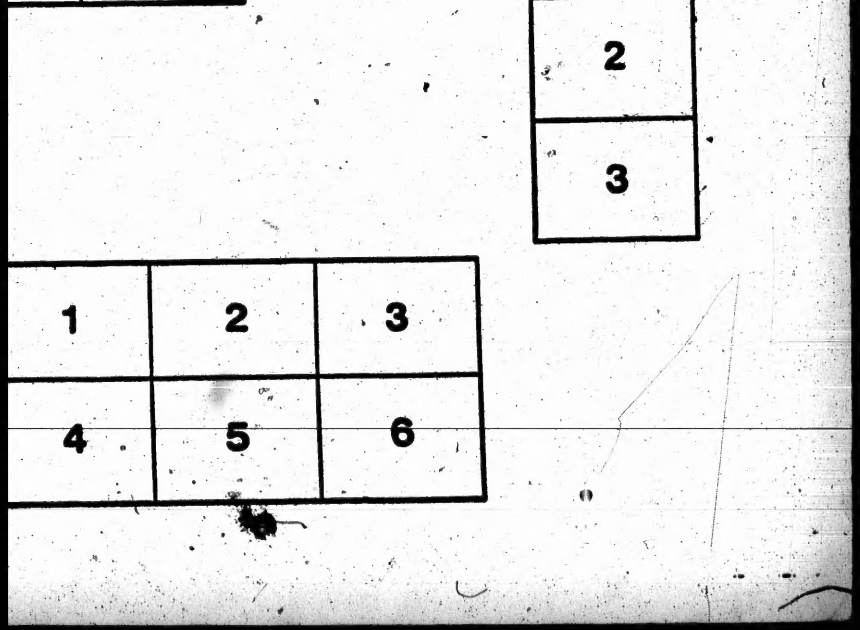
evidence of desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins, their names shall be enrolled in the lists of probationers; and if they shall continue to give evidence of a principle and habit of piety, they may be admitted into full membership of our Church, on the recommendation of a leader with whom they have met at least six months in class, by publicly assenting before the Church to the baptismal covenant, and also the usual questions on doctrines and discipline.

In the chapter on Trials, the following directions are added:—If any Minister or Preacher shall have contracted debts which he is not able to pay, let the Chairman appoint three judicious Ministers or members of the Church, to make the necessary enquiries into the circumstances of the supposed delinquent, and if, in their opinion, he has behaved dishonestly or contracted debts without a probability of paying, let him be reproved, suspended, or disposed of as the committee may judge expedient, until the next ensuing District Meeting.

Page 71. Chap. 4. Sec. 10.—Insert, *and of insolvencies and the settlement of disputes.*

Ques. 1.—Incorporate before the Leaders' Meeting—Who shall preside on the trial, and cause exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings in the case to be taken.

Page 72. Ques. 5.—And the Preacher in charge shall present exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings of the trial, to the Quarterly Conference, from which minutes the case shall finally be determined.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